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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY G.M. Raj DATE May 6, 1982

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FROM: Tripoli

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 434, February 18, 1 p.m.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 434, REPEATED INFORMATION BENGHAZI UNNUMBERED

Following is text letter just received from Prime Minister intended cover "working group" report submitted Embassy yesterday (EMBTEL 430):

"In absence Ambassador Tappin in Washington, I am writing you in connection with Libya's financial requirements for economic development.

"Following upon recent exchange of letters this question between United States Ambassador and myself, committee composed as suggested in my letter 6th February, held series meetings and has now submitted report.

"Report, copies which I have pleasure of forwarding herewith, is in form itemized list projects in various fields together with covering memorandum which sets out basis upon which committee approached and carried out its task.

"Committee was unanimously of opinion that program constituted by these projects, is both realistic and practicable.

"To my mind this statement of needs covers purely essential projects necessary set Libya or road to economic viability--there are no frills or 'luxuries.' Even such matters as low-cost housing have not been included. Although very important, they have been left aside, lest possibly their inclusion should jeopardize our chances obtaining full aid required to assure our very existence as independent state in society free nations. Perhaps at some later stage these matters may be given attention.

"I feel convinced this realistic statement of needs will receive most sympathetic consideration of your President and his administration. I therefore forward enclosed report, together with copy letter transmission from chairman of committee, with request you transmit it

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-2- 434, February 18, 1 p.m., from Tripoli. Control 10689.

transmit it urgently Washington, in earnest hope I shall receive an early and favorable response from you."

Since apparent from conversation key Libyan Government officials Prime Minister considers this report as point departure for renegotiation base agreement economic quid pro quo with emphasis on "sympathetic consideration" provisions and therefore as constituting firm request additional US assistance, would appreciate Department's advice as to text of acknowledgment if any that can be made at this time.

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